

## Town Council Meeting: 11 October 2010



Town of Garrett Park  
PO Box 84  
4600 Waverly Avenue  
Garrett Park, MD 20896

Regular Meeting of Town Council  
Garrett Park Town Hall  
10814 Kenilworth Avenue  
Garrett Park, MD 20896

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### MINUTES

**Call to Order:** Acting Mayor Mandel called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM. Present were Councilmembers Irons, Petito, Schulp, and Wegner. Also present was Administrator Pratt, Margaret Soltan of the *Bugle*, and a number of Town residents.

**Approval of Agenda:** The Agenda was approved as posted without objection.

#### **Mayor's Report:**

- Acting Mayor Mandel updated the Council on the status of the existing WSSC sewer for the Garrett Park Elementary School, installed over 70 years ago over Town property to the north of Oxford Street without an easement. WSSC has been withholding approval of current school project until this matter was resolved. Mayor Keller, after reviewing the situation with the Town Attorney, has agreed to grant an easement to WSSC with conditions, and that WSSC has accepted these conditions and has allowed school project to go forward. (Mayor's letter attached to these minutes)
- Acting Mayor Mandel also noted that Mayor Keller, at the request of the Parks and Open Space Committee, had written a detailed letter to the Montgomery County Parks Department regarding Wells Park. (A copy of Mayor Keller's letter is attached to these minutes)

#### **Councilmember's Reports on Areas of Responsibility:**

- Councilmember Mandel reported that Maintenance Superintendant Frost has finished painting western side of Penn Place, and has started work on the front porch. Also, that work on installing new gutters on the high roof over the Post Office and front entrances should begin shortly, and be completed before the snow flies.
- Councilmember Wegner reported on street walk that he had with engineers from Chester engineering to review the status of the Town's roads, noting that the work done two years ago is holding up well. On October 19<sup>th</sup> Councilmember Wegner will walk the drainage areas that are slated for repairs with representatives from Chester.
- Councilmember Petito reported on the Parks and Open Space Committee

meeting held on September 25<sup>th</sup>, noting that the Mayor had sent a letter to the County regarding Wells Park, as referenced in the Mayor's report, and that there will be a committee meeting next at Wells Park on the 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. Also, a spreadsheet on work to be done has been developed by Chuck Berry, and that the Committee has had some discussion of the need for other areas of open space to be improved.

- Councilmember Irons reported that Land Use Task Force Chair Suzanne Grefsheim has agreed to develop a chart for comparison of Town & county regulations for the Council's use.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- 09/13/2010 Regular Council Meeting - Action on these minutes was deferred.

### **Action/Discussion:**

- Introduction of Ordinance 2010-04: Adding \$50,000 to both Operating and Capital Contingencies - Acting Mayor Mandel recognized Councilmember Wegner, who **MOVED**

The introduction of Ordinance 2010-04 which appropriates \$50,000 from available funds in the Town's treasury ("Free Cash") - \$30,000 to be placed in Contingency (19000), and \$20,000 to be placed in Capital Contingency (23900). Councilmember Petito seconded the motion. Councilmember Wegner explained that the intent was to maintain \$30,000 in operating contingency and to increase the capital contingency to \$57,830 in order to provide the Council with the capacity to act quickly should it be necessary to increase any operating or capital line item. There was brief discussion. The motion was **PASSED** unanimously.

- Transfers from Operating & Capital Contingencies - Acting Mayor Mandel recognize Councilmember Irons, who **MOVED**

That \$20,000 be transferred from Contingency (19000) to Arboretum (14400) to cover the cost of the storm damage in Cambria Park, and that \$10,000 be transferred from Contingency (19000) to Professional Fees (11700) to cover unanticipated legal fees related to the acquisition of the Community Center. Councilmember Wegner seconded the motion. Councilmember Schulp asked if it might not be better to place related legal expenses in the Community Center accounts. Administrator Pratt noted that past practice had kept all legal expense in the Professional Fees accounts, but that a detailed report summarizing all expense related to the Community Center could be prepared at any time. After brief discussion the motion **PASSED** unanimously

### **Town Administrator Report:**

- Monthly Financial Report - Administrator Pratt reviewed the monthly financial report with the Council.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

[TOWN SEAL]

Edwin Pratt, Jr., Clerk-Treasurer